



January 24, 2011

Rogers Little Theater  
116 S. Second St.  
Rogers, AR 72756  
[www.rogerslittletheater.org](http://www.rogerslittletheater.org)  
479.631.8988

**Contact:** For questions about auditions contact Charles Riedmueller at 479.200.6089 (evening or weekends) or 888.726.4285 (during weekly business hours) or [criedmueller@gmail.com](mailto:criedmueller@gmail.com). All other inquires, contact RLT President Richard Dean Prudenti at 479.381.6750 or [rdprudenti@gmail.com](mailto:rdprudenti@gmail.com).

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RLT To Host Auditions for 'Arsenic and Old Lace' Feb. 15-16

ROGERS, Ark. — RLT will be holding auditions for *Arsenic and Old Lace*, a play by Joseph Kesselring, at 7 p.m. Feb. 15-16 at 116 S. Second St. in historic downtown Rogers.

Performances are in the same venue April 8-10, 14-17.

A ready-made comedy hit, *Arsenic and Old Lace* is about charming and innocent ladies who populate their cellar with the remains of socially and religiously "acceptable" roomers. The antics of their brother who thinks he is Teddy Roosevelt and the activities of the other brother need no amplification here. The main character, Mortimer Bruster, is a newspaperman and author—played by Cary Grant in the movie version—who finds out that his two aunts have a hobby of killing lonely old men and burying them in the cellar.

"This is an American classic, and people know it," said director of the play, Charlie Riedmueller. "I am looking for strong actors that can create great characters. I don't want 'Cary Grant.' I want the actor to develop the character organically."

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The only exception is the character, Dr. Einstein, with an unusual accent and background. He is the murderous accomplice who received plastic surgery to conceal his identity and now looks like horror-film actor Boris Karloff.

“A person needs to look and sound like Boris Karloff, but all the other people I don’t want to have a preconceived idea of who these characters are. I want the actor to bring his talent; I don’t want to bring it. I want to tap the talent and let that come out and let them create their characters because this will be better than anything I made up in my mind.”

Those auditioning could be asked to read from any portion of the script, and all will definitely need to read from the section when Mortimer first discovers the body. “This is a pivotal moment and it has a lot to do with comedic timing. That is what I am definitely looking for – instinct for comedy,” Riedmueller said.

Audition materials are available via email by going to [www.rogerslittletheater.org](http://www.rogerslittletheater.org). Alternatively, scripts are available at RLT, 116 S. Second St., for a refundable \$10 deposit. Call 631-8988 or visit the website for more information about characters. Riedmueller requests those auditioning to attend both nights of auditions.

RLT's 25th Anniversary Season is sponsored by NWA Media and CitiScapes Magazine and MainStage Productions is sponsored by Beall Barclay, KNWA and KUAF 91.3 FM NPR.

RLT provides live theater experiences for audiences, performers and students, enhancing the Rogers Historic District and creating a regional destination. The theater’s motto, “Places...*Everyone*” reminds us of the stage manager making the final call before the show, but also speaks to the inclusive nature of the arts in the community.

Character	Gender	Role Size	Description
Abby Brewster	F	Lead	A darling lady in her sixties who poisons elderly men. Abby is the sister of Martha and an aunt to Teddy, Jonathan, and Mortimer.
Martha Brewster	F	Lead	A sweet elderly woman with Victorian charm who poisons elderly men, Martha is the sister of Abby and an aunt to Teddy, Jonathan, and Mortimer.
Mortimer Brewster	M	Lead	Nephew of Abby and Martha, Mortimer is a drama critic who is engaged to Elaine. He is a nice man who cares for his aunts.
Teddy Brewster	M	Supporting	Nephew of Abby and Martha Brewster, Teddy is a man in his forties who thinks that he is Theodore Roosevelt.
Jonathan Brewster	M	Supporting	Nephew of Abby and Martha Brewster, Jonathan is a psychopath who has had plastic surgery and now looks like Boris Karloff.
Reverend Harper	M	Supporting	The Brewster sisters' new neighbor and the pastor of the local church.
Elaine Harper	F	Supporting	An attractive girl in her twenties and Mortimer's fiancée, Elaine is the daughter of the Rev. Dr. Harper. She is surprisingly wise in the ways of the world for a minister's daughter.
Dr Einstein	M	Supporting	Jonathan Brewster's sidekick with an unusual accent and background.
Mr Gibbs	M	Supporting	A plastic surgeon and an alcoholic who is in his fifties, Dr. Einstein has changed Jonathan's face three times.
Mr Witherspoon	M	Supporting	The director of the nearby insane asylum.
Officer Brphy	M/F	Supporting	Cop
Officer Klein	M/F	Supporting	Cop
Officer O'Hara	M/F	Supporting	A police officer, O'Hara is a would-be playwright who pesters Mortimer to read his play.
Lieutenant Rooney	M/F	Supporting	A tough and dominating police officer

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